



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
WHITTLESEY ROAD  
PO Box 863  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0863

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

Sheila Y. Oliver  
*Lt. Governor*

MARCUS O. HICKS, ESQ.  
*ACTING COMMISSIONER*

October 15, 2019

Sent via E-mail to:  
[81444-62346178@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:81444-62346178@requests.muckrock.com)

Burkely Hermann  
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411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: OPRA Request - Tracking # 17182

Dear Mr. Hermann:

The Department of Corrections has received your Government Records Request. Your request has been assigned Request ID No. 17182 for tracking purposes. You submitted a request for copies of the following records:

“... Policies, procedures and/or documents pertaining to indexing for FamilySearch, otherwise known as Intellectual Reserve, Inc. or FamilySearch International, a genealogical non-profit operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) by inmates within facilities run by the New Jersey Department of Corrections...”

In response to your request, please be advised that there are no records available that are responsive to your request. Accordingly, your request cannot be fulfilled and is denied.

You have a right to challenge the decision by the Department of Corrections. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint in writing with the Government Records Council (GRC). You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511, by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ 08625, by e-mail at [grc@dca.state.nj.us](mailto:grc@dca.state.nj.us), or at their web site at [www.state.nj.us/grc](http://www.state.nj.us/grc). The Council can also answer other questions about the law.

Sincerely,

John Falvey  
Records Custodian

c.: OPRA Records File

## Denial of Access Appeal Info

The New Jersey [Open Public Records Act](#) (N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.) permits a person who believes he or she has been illegally denied access to a public record to file a complaint with the Government Records Council (GRC), or file suit in Superior Court to challenge the decision and compel disclosure. This poster describes the procedures for taking these actions.

### To file a complaint with the Government Records Council:

Contact the GRC by phone at: 1-866-850-0511, by e-mail at [grc@dca.state.nj.us](mailto:grc@dca.state.nj.us), or review the GRC web site at [www.nj.gov/grc](http://www.nj.gov/grc) for information and to register your complaint.

The GRC staff may be able to help resolve the problem over the phone. If not, you can receive a complaint form through the mail or from the web site.

When you file the written complaint, the GRC will offer you and the public agency non-adversarial, impartial mediation.

If mediation is not agreed to or fails, the GRC will investigate the complaint.

The investigation may result in findings or a formal decision by the GRC, which may include a hearing by the Council.

In some cases, the Council can award attorneys fees or fine a records custodian for failing to provide records.

Details of this process are available from the GRC.

There is no fee to file a complaint with the GRC.

### To file a complaint in Superior Court:

A requester may start a summary (expedited) lawsuit in the Superior Court. A written complaint and order to show cause must be filed with the court.

The court requires a \$200 filing fee, and you must serve the lawsuit papers on the appropriate public officials.

The court will schedule a hearing and resolve the dispute.

If you disagree with the court's decision, you may appeal the decision to the Appellate Division of Superior Court.

If you are successful, you may be entitled to reasonable attorney fees.

You may wish to consult with an attorney to learn about initiating and pursuing a summary lawsuit in the Superior Court.

<http://www.state.nj.us/grc/register/appeal/>